

Office of Attorney General Terry Goddard



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Terry Goddard Presents Victims' Rights Awards

(Phoenix, Ariz. – April 18, 2008) Attorney General Terry Goddard yesterday presented his office's *Spirit of Excellence Award* to the Attorney General's Special Investigations Section. He cited the investigating agents' for their tireless patience working with victims of crime and their ability to coordinate complex needs of victims. The awards were presented at the annual Victims' Rights Week recognition ceremony of the Attorney General's Office.

The Special Investigations Section (SIS) provides investigative support to law enforcement and consumer protection services of the Attorney General's Office, as well as to law enforcement agencies across the state. SIS provides expertise in specialized areas including vulnerable adult abuse, consumer fraud, drug trafficking, human smuggling, environmental crimes, medical fraud, money laundering, white-collar crimes, political corruption, youth tobacco enforcement, antitrust, high-technology crimes and foreign prosecution of defendants who have fled the country.

The award recognized SIS investigators' accomplishments in the successful prosecution of the Baptist Foundation criminal case and in restoring the rule of law in Colorado City, Ariz., as well as in the areas of elder abuse, consumer fraud and foreign extradition.

"Time and again, the agents in our Special Investigators Section have gone above and beyond to help meet victims' needs," Goddard said. "Their ongoing commitment has earned them the *Spirit of Excellence Award*."

Goddard also presented Victim Services Recognition Awards to Assistant Attorney General Kelly O'Conner, Legal Assistant Christina Moan and Legal Secretary Wendy Crocker.

Earlier this week in the Tucson Office, Goddard presented Victim Services Recognition Awards to Assistant Attorney General Amy Cain and Information Services Specialist Jeff Wegenka.

The Attorney General's Office is dedicated to a system of justice that is inclusive of crime victims and strives to provide the most efficient and effective service to the people of Arizona. To reach the Attorney General's Office of Victim Services, please contact victimservices@azag.gov or (602) 542-5025. Additional information is available at the Attorney General's Office Web site, www.azag.gov.

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